

Children's Behavioral Health Initiative
April 2001
KidCare Update

The Department has released the phase-in schedule for the regional rollout of core KidCare related community-based services. The services that will be part of this rollout include: Care Coordination, Extended Day Treatment Services, Emergency Mobile Psychiatric Services, Home Based Services, Therapeutic Mentoring/Respite and Psychiatric Services. Enhancements to existing Extended Day Treatment slots will also occur beginning July 1, 2001. A listing of the rollout schedule is as follows:

Region	Projected Start Date
SouthCentral	July 1, 2001
NorthWest	November 1, 2001
NorthCentral	February 1, 2002
Eastern	April 1, 2002
SouthWest	July 1, 2002

This rollout reflects the development of the infrastructure needed to support our children's behavioral health system. Connecticut Community KidCare, on the other hand, represents the comprehensive reform to the structure and mechanisms for financing and delivering children's behavioral health services in the state. This initiative is scheduled to begin by July 1, 2002.

In the coming days, Division of Mental Health staff will be meeting with all the regional FASU Units to discuss and receive feedback regarding KidCare and the associated impending changes. KidCare surveys will also be distributed to the staff of these units. FASU staff will be asked to provide input on the service array that will be required to support foster and adoptive families caring for children and youth with behavioral health issues. In addition, Division of Mental Health staff will convene focus groups (English and Spanish facilitated) with and distribute surveys to foster care and adoptive families. These surveys will be used to gain valuable insight on the services and supports that foster and adoptive families think should be available under KidCare to aid them in caring for children with behavioral health needs. These surveys will be available in both English and Spanish.

Finally, the Department is pleased to announce that the much anticipated Family Advocacy Services Request For Proposal ("RFP") has been released. This program will offer families caring for a child with serious emotional disturbance a variety of support related services. Families across the state will have access to one-to-one, direct advocacy; peer support; training and information. It is anticipated that this new, statewide contract will start July 1, 2001.

Should you have any questions or comments about the regional rollout of services and/or the KidCare initiative please do not hesitate to contact the Division of Mental Health.